

23RD ANNUAL

GODWIT DAYS

SPRING
MIGRATION
BIRD
FESTIVAL

APRIL 18-24
2018

ARCATA
COMMUNITY
CENTER

Keynote Speakers:

Sharon "Birdchick" Stiteler
"Today's Office"

Jack Dumbacher

"The Future of Deep Forest Owls in California"

Inside:

Schedule • Event Descriptions • Keynote Speaker •
Spotlight Organization • Friday Night Lectures •
Registration Form • and More!

www.godwitdays.org

707-826-7050 or 800-908-WING



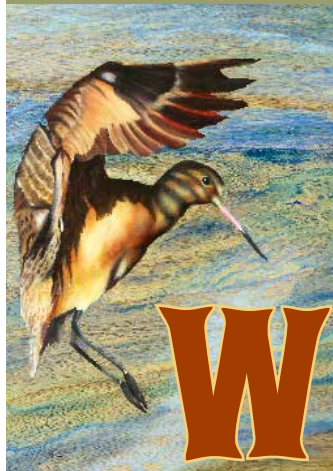
A wooden table with a meal. In the foreground, a sandwich is cut in half, showing fillings of meat, cheese, and vegetables. Next to it is a salad in a metal tray with spaghetti, mushrooms, and greens. A glass of pink drink is on the left. A blue-handled knife with the North Coast Coop logo is in the foreground. A wooden fork is in the salad.

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GODWIT DAYS 2018

WELCOME!

THE 2018 GODWIT DAYS FESTIVAL includes over 90 field trips, workshops, and social events for birding, botanizing, boating, and more. Over its two decades, the festival has evolved to include events that explore all varieties of North Coast habitats and their associated wildlife.

The schedule of events has several NEW trips, which include Snow Camp and Bald Mtn Rd., Lower Mad River Riparian, McKinleyville, Humboldt County's "Birdiest City," and Bike & Bird Humboldt Bay Trail North. We are continuing with several of the popular "GOLD" trips, special highlighted events that include lunch, smaller groups, and high-end trip leaders.

The Arcata Community Center will be abuzz with vendor booths, live birds, art, nature crafts, and a silent auction open to the public during the festival weekend.

There's something for every member of your family at Godwit Days! Register now at www.godwitdays.org or just stop by Friday afternoon through Sunday afternoon, April 20-22.

Godwit Days is held at the peak of spring migration for the Marbled Godwit and numerous other shorebirds and songbirds. Field guides will lead small groups of 8 to 25 attendees on trips through the North Coast's towering redwoods, rocky ocean coasts, wild river valleys, expansive Bay mudflats, and the world-renowned Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary. More than 235 bird species have been recorded during our 22 years of festivals.

**JOIN US FOR EXTRAORDINARY BIRDING
ON THE NORTH COAST!**

Like us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/godwitdays



3 WAYS TO REGISTER

- Online registration at:
www.godwitdays.org
- Mail-in registration form on page 28. Fill out & send in with your payment.
- Call 707-826-7050 or 1-800-908-WING

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SPOTLIGHT ON MAD RIVER ALLIANCE

The Mad River Alliance is a community-driven group working to protect clean local water and the ecological integrity of the Mad River watershed for the benefit of its human and natural communities. The non-profit organization has worked with various agencies to count summer-run steelhead along 46.6 miles of the Mad River, from the R.W. Matthews Dam at Ruth Lake to the U.S. Highway 101 bridge. This year, the Mad River Alliance held the fifth annual Steelhead Days, a month-long contest and educational event held during the peak of the run. To get in touch with Mad River Alliance with questions, comments, or suggestions, send us email to info@madriveralliance.org or call/text Dave Feral at (707) 382-6162.



FRIDAY NIGHT LECTURES

The evening will begin with a word of welcome from Arcata Mayor Sofia Pereira.

. The Humboldt County Bird of the Year Award will take place afterward.

Dave Feral, executive director and founder of Mad River Alliance & Humboldt Steelhead Days, will give a talk titled
“Mad River: Past, Present, & Future.”

Jack Dumbacher will cap off the evening with his lecture on
“The Future of Deep Forest Owls in California.”

These presentations, plus the Opening Reception from 5 p.m to 6:30 p.m., are free and open to the general public.

FRIDAY NIGHT LECTURE

JACK DUMBACHER

**“THE FUTURE OF DEEP FOREST
OWLS IN CALIFORNIA:
A DILEMMA FOR CONSERVATION
OF NORTHERN SPOTTED OWLS”**



In the last 50 to 100 years, the eastern Barred Owl has made its way to the western USA. Presumably helped by human landscape alteration, they now inhabit all of the range of the endangered Northern Spotted Owl and much of that of the California Spotted Owl. In recent years, evidence is mounting to suggest that Barred Owls have become a primary threat to Spotted Owls – they are fierce competitors, aggressive territory holders, faster reproducers, and have even been anecdotally reported to kill Spotted Owls. And they are spreading faster than ever. In this talk, Dumbacher will discuss the natural history and conservation concerns for both species, and discuss research and potential actions that are being considered by different management agencies.

Jack Dumbacher is curator of Birds and Mammals at the California Academy of Sciences and professor of Biology at San Francisco State University. He has been working on California Barred Owls since 2006. Both Northern Spotted Owls and Barred Owls are common species in Humboldt County.

**Featured Speaker Jack Dumbacher gives his Lecture on
Friday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m.**

SATURDAY NIGHT LECTURE

SHARON “BIRDCHICK” STITELER

“TODAY’S OFFICE”



Sharon “Birdchick” Stiteler is the author of *Disapproving Rabbits*, *City Birds/ Country Birds* and *1001 Secrets Every Birder Should Know*. She appears regularly on television and radio, including Outdoor News Radio, *All Things Considered*, and NBC News. “Since 1997, I have successfully made it my goal to get paid to go birding. I travel the world as a field trip leader, birding consultant, humorous keynote speaker, bird field technician, bird bander, and writer,” Stiteler wrote on her website. “I’m #32 in the Geek A Week Trading Card set and work part-time as a National Park Ranger for the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.”

In describing her talk, Stiteler writes: “My office can be in the middle of the Kazakh Steppes or flying 100 feet above the Mississippi River counting ducks. I will chronicle my many adventures finding things, birds and suitable bathrooms. I’ll talk about finding Horned Guans in Guatemala or Sandwich Terns in a nudist colony.”

**Sharon “Birdchick” Stiteler delivers the Keynote Lecture on
Saturday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m.**

MORE ABOUT GODWIT DAYS

You'll find all this and more at the Arcata Community Center, 321 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway in Arcata Friday through Sunday.

ON-SITE REGISTRATION HOURS 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Friday; 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Saturday; 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday.

PROVISIONS Godwit Café, operated by Redwood Region Audubon, will serve lunch, drinks and snacks Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

BIRD ALLY X/HUMBOLDT WILDLIFE CARE CENTER on display from Humboldt Wildlife Care Center, Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

FAMILY NATURE CRAFTS provided free by Friends of the Arcata Marsh, Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Arts & Crafts room.

STUDENT BIRD ART CONTEST entries on display all weekend. Art and writing contest winners will be announced Saturday at 10:30 a.m.

FREE COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES No registration fee, but sign-up required to reserve a place. (See pages 6-8 to find field trips designated as "Free.")

ART SHOW & SALE by members of Arcata Artisans.

SILENT AUCTION opens to the public at 3:00 p.m. Friday, closes at 6:30 p.m. Saturday.

GODWIT MERCHANDISE available in the registration room. T-shirts featuring the 23rd annual festival artwork designed by Patricia Sundgren Smith, hats, and vests.

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SCHEDULE

Find complete event descriptions on pages 8 through 26. Events highlighted in **gold** are “Gold” events; those highlighted in **coral** are NEW events. Events marked S/O are sold out; please visit www.godwitdays.org for current availability and additional events added after press time.

Events marked NAC are open to registered attendees at no additional charge. You will find a registration form on page 28, or can register online at www.godwitdays.org.

| # | EVENT | START | END | FEE |
|----------------------------|--|------------|------------|-------|
| WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18 | | | | |
| WE01 | Dawn Chorus - Arcata Marsh 1 | 6:30 a.m. | 8:30 a.m. | \$10 |
| WE02 | Mill Creek & Del Norte Redwoods | 8:00 a.m. | 3:00 p.m. | \$100 |
| WE03 | Ferndale Bottoms & Salt River | 8:30 a.m. | 12:30 p.m. | \$15 |
| WE04 | Trinidad Head & Lighthouse 1 | 8:45 a.m. | 10:45 a.m. | FREE |
| WE05 | Coastal Bird Blitz | 9:00 a.m. | 1:00 p.m. | \$15 |
| WE06 | Warm-Up Wednesday & Birding by Phone | 10:30 a.m. | 2:30 p.m. | \$15 |
| WE07 | Arcata Ridge Trail & Aldergrove Pond | 11:00 a.m. | 2:00 p.m. | FREE |
| WE08 | Nighttime Owls 1 | 7:00 p.m. | 10:00 p.m. | S/O |
| THURSDAY, APRIL 19 | | | | |
| TH09 | Dawn Chorus - Arcata Marsh 2 | 6:30 a.m. | 8:30 a.m. | \$10 |
| TH10 | Lost Coast Birding | 7:00 a.m. | 3:00 p.m. | \$100 |
| TH11 | Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge 1 | 7:30 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | FREE |
| TH12 | Snow Camp & Bald Mountain Roads | 7:30 a.m. | 2:00 p.m. | \$20 |
| TH13 | Godwit Mystery Tour | 8:30 a.m. | 3:30 p.m. | \$25 |
| TH14 | Birding Del Norte (2-Day Trip) | 9:00 a.m. | 5:00 p.m. | \$200 |
| TH15 | Hikshari' Trail & Eureka Channel | 9:30 a.m. | 1:30 p.m. | \$10 |
| TH16 | Feeder Watch | 1:00 p.m. | 4:00 p.m. | \$15 |
| TH17 | Spotted Owls 1 (Moderate/Advanced Hike) | 1:00 p.m. | 5:00 p.m. | \$25 |
| TH18 | Stone Lagoon Visitor Center Reception | 4:00 p.m. | 6:00 p.m. | FREE |
| TH19 | Nighttime Owls 2 | 7:00 p.m. | 10:00 p.m. | S/O |
| FRIDAY, APRIL 20 | | | | |
| FR20 | Dawn Chorus - Arcata Marsh 3 | 6:30 a.m. | 8:30 a.m. | \$10 |
| FR21 | Patrick's Point State Park | 7:45 a.m. | 1:00 p.m. | FREE |
| FR22 | Conifers & Birds of the Klamath Mountains | 8:00 a.m. | 4:00 p.m. | \$40 |
| FR23 | Stone Lagoon Kayak Tour 1 | 8:00 a.m. | 12:00 p.m. | \$65 |
| FR24 | Western Snowy Plovers | 8:00 a.m. | 12:00 p.m. | \$20 |
| FR25 | Chasing Recent Rarities 1 | 8:15 a.m. | 12:15 p.m. | \$20 |
| FR26 | Freshwater Farms Reserve Trail | 8:15 a.m. | 12:15 p.m. | FREE |
| FR27 | North Jetty Sea Watch & Woodley Island | 8:30 a.m. | 12:30 p.m. | S/O |
| FR28 | Birding South to Ferndale w/lunch at Eel River Brewery | 9:00 a.m. | 3:00 p.m. | \$30 |
| FR29 | Birding North to Trinidad w/lunch at Seascape | 9:15 a.m. | 3:00 p.m. | \$30 |
| FR30 | Trinidad Head & Lighthouse 2 | 9:30 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | FREE |
| FR31 | Hikshari' Trail & Eureka Channel 2 | 10:00 a.m. | 2:00 p.m. | \$10 |
| FR32 | Kayak Humboldt Bay 1 | 12:00 a.m. | 3:30 p.m. | \$50 |
| FR33 | Spotted Owls 2 (Family Trip – Easy/Moderate Hike) | 1:00 p.m. | 5:00 p.m. | S/O |
| FR34 | Owl Pellet Dissection Workshop for Kids | 4:00 p.m. | 5:00 p.m. | FREE |
| FR35 | Opening Reception | 5:00 p.m. | 6:30 p.m. | NAC |
| FR36 | Opening Lectures | 6:30 p.m. | 8:00 p.m. | NAC |
| FR37 | Arcata Marsh Night Hike | 7:45 p.m. | 9:15 p.m. | \$10 |

SCHEDULE

| # | EVENT | START | END | FEE |
|---|-------|-------|-----|-----|
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SATURDAY, APRIL 21

| | | | | |
|------|---|------------|------------|-------|
| SA38 | Marbled Murrelets 1 | 5:00 a.m. | 8:30 a.m. | \$15 |
| SA41 | Blue Lake Cottonwoods & Mad River Hatchery | 6:00 a.m. | 12:00 p.m. | \$80 |
| SA39 | Shorebird Spectacle at the Marsh 1 | 6:30 a.m. | 9:30 a.m. | \$15 |
| SA40 | Hoopa Tribal Forest Wildlife | 6:30 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | \$20 |
| SA42 | Grouse in Redwood National Park | 6:45 a.m. | 10:45 a.m. | \$15 |
| SA43 | Humboldt Big Day | 7:00 a.m. | 5:00 p.m. | \$100 |
| SA44 | Birding by Ear Basics Workshop & Field Trip | 7:00 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |
| SA45 | Horse Mountain & High Elevation Habitats 1 | 7:00 a.m. | 12:30 p.m. | \$20 |
| SA46 | Birding with the Featured Speaker | 7:15 a.m. | 1:15 p.m. | \$125 |
| SA47 | Humboldt Bay Bird Observatory Banding 1 | 7:30 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |
| SA48 | Best Birding Spots | 7:30 a.m. | 4:00 p.m. | \$80 |
| SA49 | Stone Lagoon Kayak Tour 2 | 8:00 a.m. | 12:00 p.m. | \$65 |
| SA50 | Chasing Recent Rarities 2 | 8:00 a.m. | 12:00 p.m. | \$20 |
| SA51 | Conifers & Birds of the North Coast | 8:00 a.m. | 12:00 p.m. | \$40 |
| SA52 | Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge 2 | 8:15 a.m. | 12:15 p.m. | FREE |
| SA54 | Elk River to Fields Landing | 8:45 a.m. | 1:45 p.m. | \$15 |
| SA55 | Bear River Ridge | 9:00 a.m. | 3:30 p.m. | \$25 |
| SA53 | Lower Mad River Riparian | 9:30 a.m. | 3:30 p.m. | \$20 |
| SA56 | Kids Birding Trip 1 | 9:30 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | FREE |
| SA57 | Herpetology | 9:30 a.m. | 2:30 p.m. | \$20 |
| SA60 | Kayak Humboldt Bay 2 | 12:00 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. | \$10 |
| SA61 | Art Workshop for Kids | 12:00 p.m. | 1:00 p.m. | FREE |
| SA62 | Dune Ecology & The Humboldt Coastal Nature Center | 12:00 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. | FREE |
| SA63 | Native Plant Walk | 12:30 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. | FREE |
| SA64 | Spotted Owls 3 (Easy/Moderate Hike) | 1:00 p.m. | 5:00 p.m. | S/O |
| SA65 | Birding 101 Lecture & Field Trip | 1:00 p.m. | 5:00 p.m. | \$10 |
| SA66 | Field Sketching Workshop & Field Trip | 1:30 p.m. | 5:00 p.m. | \$15 |
| SA67 | Binoculars & Scopes Lecture | 2:30 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. | FREE |
| SA68 | Banquet | 5:30 p.m. | 7:00 p.m. | \$30 |
| SA69 | Keynote Lecture | 7:00 p.m. | 8:30 p.m. | \$10 |

FIND THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION AT WWW.GODWITDAYS.ORG

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SCHEDULE

| # | EVENT | START | END | FEE |
|---|-------|-------|-----|-----|
|---|-------|-------|-----|-----|

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

| | | | | |
|------|---|------------|------------|-------|
| SU70 | Marbled Murrelets 2 | 5:00 a.m. | 8:30 a.m. | \$15 |
| SU71 | Shorebird Spectacle at the Marsh 2 | 7:00 a.m. | 10:00 a.m. | \$15 |
| SU72 | Horse Mountain & High Elevation Habitats 2 | 7:00 a.m. | 12:30 p.m. | \$20 |
| SU73 | Birding with the Keynote Speaker | 7:00 a.m. | 1:00 p.m. | \$125 |
| SU74 | Trinity River & Willow Creek | 7:15 a.m. | 3:00 p.m. | \$30 |
| SU75 | Birding by Ear Beyond the Basics Workshop & Field Trip | 7:30 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |
| SU76 | Humboldt Bay Bird Observatory Banding 2 | 7:30 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |
| SU77 | Del Norte & Tufted Puffins | 7:45 a.m. | 5:00 p.m. | S/O |
| SU78 | McKinleyville, Humboldt County's "Birdiest City" | 8:00 a.m. | 1:00 p.m. | S/O |
| SU79 | Stone Lagoon Kayak Tour 3 | 8:00 a.m. | 12:00 p.m. | \$65 |
| SU80 | iNaturalist BioBlitz with Jack Dumbacher | 8:15 a.m. | 11:15 a.m. | \$15 |
| SU81 | Arcata Marsh Birding & Wastewater Tour | 8:30 a.m. | 12:30 a.m. | FREE |
| SU82 | Eureka Waterfront | 9:00 a.m. | 12:00 p.m. | \$15 |
| SU83 | Bike & Bird Humboldt Bay Trail North | 9:00 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |
| SU84 | Kids Birding Trip 2 | 9:30 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | FREE |
| SU85 | Dragonflies Workshop | 10:45 a.m. | 3:00 p.m. | FREE |
| SU86 | Salmon Smolts & The Little River | 11:00 a.m. | 2:00 p.m. | \$15 |
| SU87 | Kayak Mad River Slough | 12:00 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. | \$50 |
| SU88 | Lanphere Dunes | 12:00 p.m. | 3:30 p.m. | FREE |
| SU90 | Tech Birding Workshop with "Birdchick" | 1:00 p.m. | 2:00 p.m. | \$20 |
| SU91 | Spotted Owls 4 (Moderate/Advanced Hike) | 1:00 p.m. | 5:00 p.m. | \$25 |
| SU92 | iNaturalist Workshop with Jack Dumbacher | 1:00 p.m. | 2:00 p.m. | \$20 |
| SU93 | Sunday Evening Social | 5:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. | NAC |

MONDAY, APRIL 23

| | | | | |
|------|--|-----------|------------|-------|
| MO94 | Lava Beds NE California (2-Day Trip) | 7:00 a.m. | 6:00 p.m. | \$250 |
| MO95 | Shorebird Spectacle at the Marsh 3 | 7:30 a.m. | 10:30 p.m. | \$15 |
| MO96 | Humboldt Lagoons State Park - Stone Lagoon | 7:30 a.m. | 12:30 p.m. | FREE |
| MO97 | Mulligan Monday | 8:00 a.m. | 1:00 p.m. | \$15 |

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

| | | | | |
|------|------------------|-----------|------------|-----|
| TU98 | Tail-end Tuesday | 7:00 a.m. | 10:00 a.m. | \$8 |
|------|------------------|-----------|------------|-----|

GREAT BIRDING SPOTS

- Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary
- Humboldt Bay NWR, Salmon Creek Unit
- Shay Park
- Carlson Park
- Freshwater Reserve Trail
- Elk Head, Trinidad
- Mad River County Park
- Blue Lake Fish Hatchery
- V Street Loop & Arcata Bottom
- Hikshari' Trail, South Eureka Waterfront

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www.godwitdays.com/about/arcata_birding_01.pdf

www.godwitdays.com/about/arcata_birding_02.pdf



EVENTS

Basic Registration of \$35 includes Opening Reception with drink ticket, Keynote, Sunday Evening Social, and events designated as “No Additional Charge (NAC)” or “Free.” Additional events are as priced.

Events identified as  are small groups and/or lunch included.

All registrants, except those attending only Free events, must pay the Basic Registration fee. If you plan to sign up for Free community events ONLY, you can do so online; there is no need for basic registration. All events meet at the Arcata Community Center unless otherwise noted.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

WE01 Dawn Chorus – Arcata Marsh 1**\$10****6:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.****Leader: Chet Ogan**

The Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary is the jewel in the crown of Humboldt birding. This restored estuary habitat supports ducks, herons, sparrows, chickadees, massive flocks of shorebirds, and many more species. This pre-breakfast trip is planned to catch the dawn chorus in full swing at the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary. Birds are on the move at this time, so there will be plenty of birding action. The willows along the trails house the songbirds and the reed beds support chattering Marsh Wrens. This trip is for everyone and will provide an introduction to the variety of birds at the marsh. Terrain is mostly flat on maintained trails. We will not stop for food and there will be opportunity to use a spotting scope if you have one. This event is also offered Thursday and Friday, (see events #TH09 & #FR20.) **[Event repeats Thursday and Friday as #TH09 & #FR20.]**

**WE02 Mill Creek & Del Norte Redwoods (w/lunch)****\$100****8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.****Leader: Tony Kurz**

This intimate trip with only 10 participants, and includes lunch, will travel north in a van that accommodates the entire group. The Mill Creek Watershed is a newer addition to the State Park system here on the North Coast. The drive will take more than an hour, but the lagoons, giant redwoods and possibly the local Elk herd will provide a most scenic trip. Nestled in the redwood forest, riparian habitat along Mill Creek provides excellent birding opportunities. A great mixture of forest bird species and riparian specialties will be seen including Ruffed Grouse. A bag lunch is included, let us know if you have any food allergies or special diet (godwitdaysreg@yahoo.com). Bring your own water.

WE03 Ferndale Bottoms & Salt River**\$15****8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.****Leader: Deven Kammerichs-Berke**

Visit the Riverside Ranch/Salt River Restoration Project, the exciting, newly restored but still-developing wetland that is otherwise only accessible by boat at this time. Be prepared to walk a few miles on an easy gravel road. Wetland birds and raptors will be the focus, but there are also riparian and grassland habitats to be explored. Bring a spotting scope if you have one. You may also want to bring water and a lunch.

WE04 Trinidad Head & Lighthouse 1**FREE****8:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.****Leaders: Leisyka Parrott & Shannon Brinkman**

The Trinidad Rocks! Visit the California Coastal National Monument in Trinidad, one of the most regionally significant areas along the California coast for roosting and nesting seabirds. Join a mile long hike around Trinidad Head, where the class will share in breathtaking views of the Trinidad coastline, while also looking for and learning about the seabirds in Trinidad, their natural history, how to identify different species, and the importance of seabirds and their role as indicators for the marine environment. The course will also provide a brief history of Trinidad Head and end with a visit to the historical and still operational Trinidad Lighthouse. Shannon Brinkman is a seabird biologist at the Bureau of Land Management, Arcata Field Office. Shannon, in collaboration with HSU and local partners, monitors roosting and breeding seabirds in Trinidad as part of the North Coast Seabird Protection Network, a program which aims to protect, monitor, interpret, restore and enjoy the seabird populations along the North Coast. Leisyka Parrott is an Interpretive Specialist for the BLM Arcata Field Office. Leisyka exudes enthusiasm about everything Trinidad. Her passion for the coast is contagious and she enjoys sharing all she knows with visitors to the area. **[This event repeats on Friday as event FR30.]**

WE05 Coastal Bird Blitz**\$15****9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.****Leader: Rob Fowler**

This will be a fast paced trip to many of the top Humboldt coastal birding spots. Ranging from South Bay and King Salmon the trip will end up overlooking the rocky shore in Trinidad to look for Black Oystercatcher and view the large Common Murre colony located at Elkhead. Shorebirds will be in abundance and a spotting scope is recommended if you have one to bring. Many western species will be noted and if you

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18 CONTINUED

have any specially desired species in mind, the leader can provide details to get you fired up for your birding weekend. Bring a snack and water as we will not be making stops other than for requested restroom breaks.

WE06 Warm-Up Wednesday & Birding by Phone

\$15

10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Leader: Gary Bloomfield

This casual birding trip will use smart phone apps to enhance the birding experience. Gary will share his knowledge of the different apps available and how to use them. The HBBO/KBO booth can help you enter your species list into eBird Friday, Saturday, or Sunday during the vendor hours at the Community Center. We will work around the Arcata area with a start at the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary to witness the thousands of shorebirds that roost, feed, and fly around the marsh in spectacular display. A variety of species will be seen as we move on to the Arcata Bottoms and the north end of Humboldt Bay. Gary has been an Arcata birder for many years and will also be looking for any special birds that have been reported in the area.

WE07 Arcata Ridge Trail & Aldergrove Pond

FREE

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Leader: George Ziminsky

The new Ridge Trail access off West End Road has opened up a nice new strip of riparian habitat. Part of the City of Arcata's Community Forest trail system it follows along Janes Creek with redwood forested slopes above. Former mill ponds have created cattail marshes and Virginia Rail, Marsh Wren or Common Yellowthroat are possible. The Black-capped Chickadee flock should move through the riparian with Wilson's and Orange-crowned Warblers, a vireo or two and some song sparrows. Up slope the classic redwood forest birds will be seen or heard: Pacific Wren, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Varied Thrush, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper and Steller's Jay. Back out and around the old mill site down West End Road towards Hwy 299, Aldergrove Pond is just on the other side of the former sawmill. Here again is a small urban pond and its associated riparian habitat. The pace of this trip will be relaxed and casual, it will cover our basic forest and woodland birds. Not much need for a scope, moderate walking on well maintained trails. A few species, but owls are highly unpredictable. Clear weather is best for night-time owling; rain cancels this trip. Dress warmly and wear comfortable shoes, although terrain is mostly flat. This car pool trip will not be able to stop for food or restrooms. There may be opportunity to use a spotting scope until dark.

WE08 Nighttime Owls 1

\$15

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Leader: David Juliano

Several locations will be searched in the hopes of a call or lucky glimpse of an owl. Some years this trip can hear quite a few species, but owls are highly unpredictable. Clear weather is best for night-time owling; rain cancels this trip. Dress warmly and wear comfortable shoes, although terrain is mostly flat. This car pool trip will not be able to stop for food or restrooms. There may be opportunity to use a spotting scope until dark.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

TH09 Dawn Chorus – Arcata Marsh 2

\$10

6:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Leader: Alexandra Lamb

[See description of event #WE01.]



TH10 Lost Coast Birding

\$100

7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Leader: Tony Kurz

This trip will travel by van and includes lunch, birding south via Ferndale, as we plan to visit isolated willow patches that are seldom birded during prime migration season. A check of the Centerville wetlands might be in order before heading south. We will also scan for raptors as we pass over the west end of Bear River Ridge. Petrolia is at the mouth of the Mattole River, the eventual destination after the glorious coastal drive. This trip includes a bag lunch, if you have any dietary preferences, please e-mail our registrar at godwitdaysreg@yahoo.com. Bring your own water.

TH11 Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge 1

FREE

7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Leaders: Kurt Roblek

THIS EVENT MEETS AT THE REFUGE VISITOR CENTER, 1020 Ranch Road, Loleta, CA 95551. See a startling diversity of bird life and hear about refuge management for migratory birds and other wildlife. Staff will lead a leisurely, level walk around the refuge that supports thousands of both Aleutian Cackling Geese and Black Brant. The ground may be wet but trails are used along the pond levees. This trip will not stop for food. Restrooms will be available at the refuge headquarters before or after the walk. There are also spotting scopes available for general use, scan the open water from the viewing window at the refuge

THURSDAY, APRIL 19 CONTINUED



TH12 Snow Camp & Bald Mountain Roads

\$20

7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Leader: Max Brodie

A first for Godwit Days, this trip will explore the inland foothills of Humboldt County along Bald Mountain and Snow Camp roads. The trip will bird through mixed conifer forest interspersed with open prairies and oak woodlands as we climb from sea level to 3,500'. As we traverse the ridges we will scan the open skies for raptors. The oak groves host several species, including Acorn Woodpecker, Western Bluebird, and White-breasted Nuthatch. Spring will bring along a variety of other early migrant species to this beautiful mid-elevation habitat. All of the birding will be done roadside; spotting scopes are highly recommended. Pack warm clothes, a snack, lunch, and water. There are no designated bathrooms along this route. The roads on this trip are narrow and pullouts are not always where the birds are. For this reason we ask that you please consider carpooling to the greatest extent possible.

TH13 Godwit Mystery Tour

\$25

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Leader: Mystery Leader

Just want to go birding? Well, you can enjoy the suspense and fun of this mystery tour. You will never know where you are going next or who will be your field guide! This trip will visit a variety of habitats in the Humboldt Bay Area. Please pack a lunch. Restrooms will be available in some locations, prepare for a variety of terrain.



TH14 Birding Del Norte Overnight – Hotel Included

\$200

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Leaders: Bob Brown & Lucas Brug

This overnight carpooling trip includes two days of birding, leaving at 9:00 a.m. from Arcata, stopping to bird up to and back from Crescent City and the Smith River Bottoms, giving participants an opportunity to work on their Del Norte County eBird list. We will travel past three lagoons, two major rivers, old-growth redwoods and unparallelled rocky coastlines. The leader will meet the group at the Arcata Community Center and Godwit Days board member Bob Brown will be your host for the trip and can help you with your arrangements for the night's stay at the hotel. A scope will be handy, and the trip will be mostly "car birding" with a couple of short hikes. Overnight accommodation is included in the trip cost at the Crescent Beach Motel, right on the beachfront, where a block of rooms have been reserved for festival registrants. A sack lunch is also included in the first day of this 2-day trip (Any special sleeping or dietary requirements? email: godwitdaysreg@yahoo.com). Dinner is on your own but we will make a group reservation. There will be stops to pick up food for other meals. On Friday, the early morning will be spent looking for Tufted Puffin on Castle Rock at Point St. George, as well as birding around Crescent City (incl the Harbor), Lake Earl, Alexandre Dairy, Smith River Bottoms, if not covered on Thursday. Tufted Puffins are not guaranteed, but two great days of birding is. Return time can be based on your schedule but we will plan to be back in Arcata in time for the reception (5:00 p.m.) and the talks that evening.

TH15 Hikshari' Trail & Eureka Channel

\$10

9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Leader: Ralph Bucher

We will start at the Del Norte Street Fishing Pier, which never disappoints, the muddy channel gives close up views of shorebirds and gulls, together with loons and grebes out on the bay. After this, a bit further along the Eureka Waterfront, is the City's Hikshari' trail. Here trail improvements within the Elk River Wildlife Area have made this locale a popular spot these days. Again, shorebirds up close and other ducks, cormorants, gulls and grebes out on the water. Along the willow lined disabled access trail adjacent to the banks of the Elk River estuary hopefully a flock of chickadees, warblers and other songbirds will be encountered. Thrushes, more ducks, Marsh Wren, and perhaps a Virginia Rail call from the developed wetlands beside the Eureka Wastewater Treatment Plant can be expected. The maintained trail, easy walking and close views of the birds make this a great place for urban birdwatching. [This event repeats on Friday as #FR310].

TH16 Feeder Watch

\$15

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Leader: Gary Bloomfield

Join Gary on an Arcata bird feeder tour and see which species are taking advantage of the free buffet, you never know who might show up. This would be a great opportunity for photographers.

LAST-MINUTE ADDITION!

SA58 Pajareando por la marisma

FREE

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Leader: Jose Luis Sandoval & Johanna Rivera

Curious about bird watching? Join Latino Outdoors for a bilingual walk in the Arcata Marsh to learn the basics of birding. Please bring binoculars if possible, if not we have some to loan.

¿Tiene curiosidad de pajarear? Únase con Latino Outdoors para una caminata bilingüe en la marisma de Arcata. Por favor traiga binoculares si puede, si no tiene nosotros tenemos pares para prestar.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19 CONTINUED

TH17 Spotted Owls 1 – Moderate/Advanced Hike \$25

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Leaders: Green Diamond Resource Co

This trip is a "wow!" experience as we visit known activity centers of Northern Spotted Owls in their nesting habitat. If the owl cooperate, this trip offers superb photographic opportunities. The owls come amazingly close as they swoop down for the offered mice by the Green Diamond Resource Company (GDRC) biologist. Over the years, more of the Northern Spotted Owl activity centers have been taken over by Barred Owls and has made finding reliable responsive activity centers more difficult, thus there is no definite guarantee of seeing a Northern Spotted Owl, though tours in the past have been lucky. The biologists at GDRC are quite knowledgeable on the subject of Spotted Owl biology, and they are happy to share their experiences with these birds. This event will require a hike-in after driving on gravel roads. Expect uneven terrain and possibly a long walk. Wear hiking boots and dress in layers. Will not stop for food or restrooms. Once the group carpools from the community center to Green Diamond property, they will be going behind a locked gate and cannot be joined up with, so be sure to be on time to meet the group. You may want to have a spotting scope available in your vehicle if we stop to scan for eagles, but it won't be needed to see the owls (Repeats on Friday as event #FR33 – Easy/Moderate Hike, Saturday as event # SA64 – Easy/Moderate Hike, and Sunday as event # SU91 – Moderate/Advanced Hike).

TH18 Stone Lagoon Visitor Center Reception FREE

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Leader: Kayak Zak's

This event meets at the Stone Lagoon Visitor Center. Evening Social at the Stone Lagoon Visitor Center, Humboldt Lagoons State Parks, Trinidad (30 miles north of Arcata), hosted by Kayak Zak's. Drop by to say hello, meet other outdoor and birding enthusiasts, or bring your spotting scope and enjoy nature from the redwood deck. Light refreshments featuring local products will be served. Humboldt Lagoons State Parks nestles on the coast between Redwood National and State Parks and Patrick's Point State Park. These lagoons are important estuaries for migratory shore birds, nesting summer residents and feeding grounds for many birds and other wildlife such as Roosevelt Elk and river otters all year long.

TH19 Nighttime Owls 2 S/O

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Leader: Sandra Hunt-von Arb

If you have never gone "owling" this is a great chance to see what is involved. Sandra is an experienced "owler" and can demonstrate various calling techniques. A short slideshow will introduce some of the common owl species of Humboldt County. Help scout potential locations through the Arcata Bottoms looking for Barn Owl and Short-eared Owl, then visit various locations using tapes or voice calling to elicit responses from the nighttime forest owls, including Barred Owl as they become more common in the area. This trip will be cancelled by rain. Requires good luck, a flashlight and warm clothes. Expect variable terrain and possibly wet ground. There may be an opportunity to use a spotting scope until dark. Restrooms will not be available once the trip leaves the Community Center.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

FR20 Dawn Chorus – Arcata Marsh 3 \$10

6:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Leader: Chet Ogan

[See description of event #WE01.]

FR21 Patrick's Point State Park FREE

7:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Leader: Moe Morrisette

Join California State Parks staff for a birding and cultural tour of Patrick's Point. A State Park Interpretative Specialist will lead participants on a short tour (30 minutes) of Sumeq Village, a reconstructed Yurok village. There will be opportunities to view seabirds and species associated with the park's Sitka spruce forests and meadows. Participants hopefully will see resident Red Crossbills and Gray Jays, as well as Varied Thrush. Restrooms will be available. This is a free community activity. California State Parks is a major sponsor of Godwit Days and provides a variety of trips, access to the parks, and their expert staff as guides..

FR22 Conifers & Birds of the Klamath Mountains \$40

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Leader: Michael Kauffmann

Michael Kauffmann, author of *Conifer Country*, *Conifers of the Pacific Slope*, and *Field Guide to Manzanitas*, will lead an exploration into the Klamath Mountains, home to one of the most species-rich temperate coniferous forests on Earth. The trip will be centered along South Fork Mountain where, due to its proximity to the Pacific Ocean and complex soils, fosters complex plant associations — including over half of all the plant families in California. The group will explore the mutualistic relationships between birds and conifers and search out regionally exceptional plant and bird species in the Klamath Mountains. Highlights could include Cassin's vireo, Wilson's warbler, red-breasted sapsucker, Bewick's wren, and Townsend's solitaire. Bring lunch and something to drink. [NOTE: Trip price includes your choice of one of Michael's books.]

FRIDAY, APRIL 20 CONTINUED

FR23 Stone Lagoon Kayak Tour 1

\$65

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Leader: Kayak Zak's

THIS EVENT MEETS AT THE STONE LAGOON VISITOR CENTER (30 MILES NORTH OF ARCATA) AT START TIME, SEE MAP IN REGISTRATION MATERIALS IF YOU SIGN UP FOR THIS EVENT. This event is weather dependent, please be sure we have a phone number or e-mail we can reach you in case of cancellation. Stone Lagoon nestles in the heart of Humboldt Lagoons State Park and borders Redwood National Park. This is an enclosed body of brackish water fed by Mac Donald Creek and is an important estuary for migratory shore birds. On the south end at MacDonald Creek expect to see wading birds, dabbling ducks, marsh wrens and raptors. There are two double-breasted cormorant rookeries along the lagoon and belted kingfisher nests in the sandstone. We will take a walking break (1/4 mile) at the primitive campsite on the west side to look for songbirds and woodpeckers. This is where we will find several enormous old-growth sitka spruce and other native plants and fungi. Another break will be held on the sand-spit to look for marine mammals and coastal shore-birds (1/4 mile walk). This lagoon shares a 1-1/2 mile sand spit with the ocean and is 4-1/2 miles to circumnavigate. Keep your eyes open all along the lagoon for river otters and Roosevelt Elk. The trips are appropriate for beginners and all ages. The kayaks are stable sponson-hulled sit-on-tops, both one-person and tandems. Kayak Zak's will also provide wetsuits, booties, splash jackets and life jackets. We will include a short kayak lesson before launching. Restrooms are available at launch site and at campground. Participants should bring a fleece jacket, hat, snacks, drinking water, waterproof binoculars, waterproof camera and sunscreen. You should wear a bathing suit and thin synthetic shirt (rash guard) to wear under the sleeveless wetsuit. For specific inquiries call Kayak Zak's 707 498-1130.

FR24 Western Snowy Plovers

\$20

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Leaders: Lizzie Feucht

The Western Snowy Plover is a threatened shorebird breeding on Humboldt County beaches. For the last several years, the population has been steadily growing thanks to recovery efforts by local consultants, land managers, and Humboldt State University researchers. Lizzie heads up the Western Snowy Plover survey project at HSU and will give a short presentation on the local plover population before heading to Clam Beach and possibly Little River State Beach. Bring a spotting scope if you have one and be prepared to walk up to 1 mile over soft sand.

FR25 Chasing Recent Rarities

\$20

8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Leader: Samantha Bacon

Over the years, we have recorded an impressive array of rarities during the festival, and particularly rare birds known as "accidentals". These have included Magnificent Hummingbird, Brown Shrike, and Smith's Longspur. Last year, a Humboldt County first record Royal Tern showed up. We've always coordinated a last-minute impromptu trip to see these species so this year we are planning ahead! Our rare bird board we keep in the lobby of the Arcata Community Center will guide where this trip is going to go and what we'll try to see. No guarantees of a "mega", but the leader will chase the range of desired species. [Repeats Saturday #SA50].

FR26 Freshwater Farms Reserve Trail

FREE

8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Leaders: Connie Low & Kate Howard

Join Northcoast Regional Land Trust staff Connie Low and Biologist with Point Blue Conservation Science Kate Howard for a birding tour and discussion at Freshwater Farms Reserve. This beautifully restored 74 acre wild and working landscape demonstrates complementary land uses, supporting both ecological enhancement and agriculture. The newly built nature trail meanders through meadows and rich pastureland into abundant salt marsh and estuary habitat. Wood Creek runs through the property meeting with Freshwater Slough, which is part of the larger Humboldt Bay tributary complex. More than 76 species of birds have been seen on Freshwater Farms Reserve, including hawks, waterfowl, warblers and other songbirds, and a resident barn owl. Walk is approximately one mile on a maintained trail and includes a viewing platform overlooking the restored wetland. Please wear appropriate footwear – trail may be muddy in some areas. This is a free community event. No registration fee is required if you are only attending free community events but there is limited space so sign up is required.

FR27 North Jetty Sea Watch & Woodley Island

S/O

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Leader: Rob Fowler

The North Spit provides a variety of birding spots out to the Jetty. Here the rocky shore specialists- Surfbird, Black Turnstone, and Wandering Tattler can be found. A spotting scope at the end of the Jetty allows for scanning of the ocean for seabirds, so bring a scope if you have one. Woodley Island, Vance Road, and the Samoa Bridge will harbor nesting egrets and mud-dwelling shorebirds. A no-host group lunch is planned at trip's end at Café Marina on Woodley Island.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 20 CONTINUED

FR26 Birding South to Ferndale w/lunch at Eel River Brewery \$30 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Leader: Jude Power

The Eel River Delta to the south of Humboldt Bay is home to the Victorian town of Ferndale and some great waterfowl and riparian bird habitats. The cemetery in town often has Red-breasted Sapsucker in the poplars. Open pastureland supports swallows, raptors, and blackbirds at the many dairies. Open waters should hold migrating ducks and shorebirds. The trip will feature Humboldt Bay NWR and the raptor-rich bottomland pastures of the Eel River. Shorebirds, waterfowl, and other birds of the Bay will be seen. Prepare for wet ground, terrain is mostly flat, and restrooms are at the refuge. There will be plenty of opportunity to use a spotting scope. The Salt River can be a migrant corridor and should still hold Black-capped Chickadee and Golden-crowned Sparrow. General all around car-birding will be enjoyed and the trip is focused on enjoying the all the birds encountered. A no host late lunch at the Eel River Brewery will round out the end of this trip. Great for beginners! Expect variable terrain. The group will be split between two leaders for birding then convene at the Brewery.



FR29 Birding North to Trinidad w/lunch at Seascap \$30 9:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Leader: Gary Bloomfield

A gentle walk while looking for migrant spring passerines like Pacific Slope Flycatcher or Black-capped Chickadee as well as any warblers that have arrived in the Blue Lake riparian habitats along the Mad River. Here there will be Allen's and Anna's Hummingbirds and potential Rufous Hummingbird. This is the only chance for White-throated Swifts, a new arrival in this area. We will visit Elk Head to see a Common Murre colony, and the Sitka spruce forest on the way out with Pacific Wrens and possible kinglets and Brown Creeper. Prepare for wet ground and some variable terrain. There will be restrooms at the Blue Lake Fish Hatchery and opportunity to use a spotting scope at Elkhead near Trinidad, where we will end with a no host late lunch at the Seascap Restaurant.

FR30 Trinidad Head & Lighthouse 2 FREE 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Leaders: Shannon Brinkman & Leisyka Parrott [See description of event #WE04.]



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FRIDAY, APRIL 20 CONTINUED

FR31 Hikshari' Trail & Eureka Channel 2

\$10

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Leader: Ralph Bucher

Join Ralph Bucher, RRAS board member, and regular leader of the society's third Sunday field trip to this area. After carpooling from the Community Center, we will start at the Del Norte Street Fishing Pier, which never disappoints, the muddy channel gives close up views of shorebirds and gulls, together with loons and grebes out on the bay. After this, a bit further along the Eureka Waterfront, is the City's new Hikshari' trail. Here trail improvements within the Elk River Wildlife Area have made this locale a popular spot these days. Again, shorebirds up close and other ducks, cormorants, gulls and grebes out on the water. Along the willow lined disabled access trail adjacent to the banks of the Elk River estuary hopefully a flock of chickadees, warblers and other songbirds will be encountered. Thrushes, more ducks, Marsh Wren, and perhaps a Virginia Rail call from the developed wetlands beside the Eureka Wastewater Treatment Plant can be expected. The maintained trail, easy walking and close views of the birds make this a great place for urban birdwatching.

FR32 Kayak Humboldt Bay 1

\$50

12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Leader: Pacific Outfitters

Meet at Pacific Outfitters in Eureka for this event, about a 15 minute drive from the Arcata Community Center. In this 2.5 hour tour, we'll paddle 2-4 miles as we explore Humboldt Bay and the Eureka waterfront's rich history and wildlife. In addition to being home to more than 100 plant species, 300 invertebrate species, 100 fish species, and 200 bird species, the bay and its complex system of marshes and grasses support hundreds of thousands of migrating and local shore birds. This on-top-of-the-water experience allows for close up views of water birds and flocks of small shorebirds as they fly close over your head in switch-back flight. Loons, grebes, cormorants, and diving ducks will be encountered. Humboldt Bay is the largest protected body of water on the West Coast between San Francisco Bay and Puget Sound, the second largest enclosed bay in California, and the largest port between San Francisco and Coos Bay, Oregon. Commercially, this second largest estuary in California houses the largest oyster production operations on the West Coast, producing more than half of all oysters farmed in California. All gear and instruction provided, no experience necessary. Join us for this enriching experience! This events requires at least 4 participants to go. If festival organizers must cancel because of too few sign-ups, you will receive a full refund.

FR33 Spotted Owls 2 – Family Trip – Easy/Moderate Hike

S/O

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Leader: Green Diamond Resource Co

This trip is a "wow!" experience as we visit known activity centers of Northern Spotted Owls in their nesting habitat. If the owl cooperate, this trip offers superb photographic opportunities. The owls come amazingly close as they swoop down for the offered mice by the Green Diamond Resource Company (GDRC) biologist. Over the years, more of the Northern Spotted Owl activity centers have been taken over by Barred Owls and has made finding reliable responsive activity centers more difficult, thus there is no definite guarantee of seeing a Northern Spotted Owl, though tours in the past have been lucky. The biologists at GDRC are quite knowledgeable on the subject of Spotted Owl biology, and they are happy to share their experiences with these birds. Wear hiking boots and dress in layers. This trip will not stop for food or restrooms. You may want to have a spotting scope available in your vehicle if we stop to scan for eagles, but it won't be needed to see the owls. Once the carpool group is led through the timberland property gates, there will not be opportunity to meet up with them so please be punctual at start time.

FR34 Owl Pellet Dissection Workshop for Kids

FREE

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Leader: Karen Reiss

At the Community Center, children and their parents will have fun breaking apart owl pellets to see what the birds have been eating. Rodent bone identification sheets will be provided along with the owl pellets and tools for dissecting them, generously donated by Out Of This World. Minimum age 5 please.

FR35 Opening Reception

NAC

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Visit the art exhibit, live raptors, and Bird Fair vendor booths. Light hors d'oeuvres will be provided by Wild-berries Marketplace and other local food suppliers, plus a cash bar with wine and beer from Humboldt Beer Distributors. This is a great time to track down your field trip leaders for the weekend and talk about what you are hoping to see. The Basic Registration fee includes a drink ticket in your packet for this event.

FR36 Opening Lectures

NAC

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Speakers: Dave Feral, Jack Dumbacher

[See page 2.]



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FRIDAY, APRIL 20 CONTINUED

FR37 Arcata Marsh Night Hike

\$10

7:45 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.

Leaders: Lauren McClure & Christine Champe

Once again, we feature the delights of the marsh, but with a twist. Join this tour for a unique perspective from twilight to dark at the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary. We'll look for birds at twilight and signs of mammals after dark, including a bat hunt. Dusk hours are prime mosquito time. Wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, and other protective clothing and use mosquito repellent. Terrain is flat but may be wet. Restrooms are available. Light will be low for optics use. You may want to bring a small flashlight.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

SA38 Marbled Murrelets 1

\$15

5:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Leader: Moe Morrisette

Discover this endangered and mysterious Marbled Murrelet, set in dramatic redwood old-growth forest with a local biologist. The ringing "keer" calls pierce the early morning mist. This trip to Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park near Orick is for early birds! The dawn chorus, including Varied Thrush, Pacific Wren and possibly Pileated Woodpecker, accompanies pre-dawn flights of the murrelets. These birds are usually seen only in flight. Plenty of other redwood forest birds can be enjoyed. Flat terrain, but moist. Roosevelt Elk sightings are highly likely along the route. Restrooms are available, will not stop for food. *[Carpool, 90 miles round trip; event repeats Sunday as #SU70.]*



SA41 Blue Lake Cottonwoods & Mad River Hatchery

\$80

6:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Leaders: Sharon Stiteler & Rob Fowler

The Blue Lake Cottonwoods along the Mad River are notorious for hosting neotropical migrants in the spring. The Mad River Fish Hatchery trails through thick riparian will be visited as well. Keynote Speaker Sharon "Birdchick" Stiteler and local professional bird guide Rob Fowler will lead this event which includes a sack lunch, notify us at godwitdaysreg@yahoo.com about any dietary restrictions.

SA39 Shorebird Spectacle at the Marsh 1

\$15

6:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Leader: David Fix

Witness tens of thousands of shorebirds gathered on the mudflats of North Humboldt Bay. Approaching high breeding condition, these northbound Arctic and subarctic nesters swarm and vocalize in a manner that cannot be experienced at other seasons. This has become a featured trip of Godwit Days, and it is also offered on Sunday and Monday (see event #SU71, #MO97). The number of birds on the move is staggering and can be experienced daily during this northward spring migration push. Shorebird species expected include: Western and Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Marbled Godwit, Willet, dowitchers, Black-bellied Plover and American Avocet.

SA40 Hoopa Tribal Forest Wildlife

\$20

6:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Leader: Dawn Blake

THIS EVENT MEETS AT THE THE HOOPA TRIBAL FORESTRY OFFICE IN HOOPA, A 1.5 HOUR DRIVE FROM ARCATA. (120 MILES ROUNDTrip; TRUCK OR SUV RECOMMENDED); SEE MAP IN REGISTRATION MATERIALS IF YOU SIGN UP FOR THIS EVENT. With the help of a Hoopa Tribal Forestry biologist, the elusive Ruffed Grouse has been located on past field trips. Northwestern California forests are the only place in the state where the Ruffed Grouse is regularly found. The Hoopa Tribal lands just north of Willow Creek have a rich and diverse natural wildlife and human culture. This trip may also encounter Sooty Grouse, Mountain Quail and other forest birds.

SA42 Grouse in Redwood National Park

\$15

6:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Leader: Brit O'Brien

This trip will take you in search of grouse and other gamebirds in the early morning in Redwood National Park. Brit, the owner of O'Brien Biological Consultants, has worked extensively as a wildlife biologist in our region and beyond. He is quite familiar with forest wildlife and has led this trip for many years. Successfully seeing Ruffed Grouse is never guaranteed, but he gets them most years and this is certainly your best chance for it. Expect mostly flat even ground, but we may need to go off-trail if a grouse is spotted. Other redwood forest birds such as Varied Thrush and Pacific Wren will be singing. Roosevelt elk may be seen as well.



SATURDAY, APRIL 21 CONTINUED

SA43 Humboldt Big Day

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

There is no better way to experience the variety of spring birds in Humboldt. Join the Big Day team as it attempts to exceed the 100 species mark! Travel up and down the coast by city bus visiting our area's best spots. This is a fast-paced field trip, making several quick stops to record as many species of birds as possible. Waterfowl and shorebirds over the bay, herons and egrets at the Marsh, seabirds offshore, riparian passerines and of course some Marbled Godwits will be seen. In recent years we have even begun to exceed the 125 mark as locations such as the Blue Lake Cottonwoods or Elkhead are visited. A sack lunch is included (vegetarian choice available). Bring your own water. Restrooms will be available at some stops. There will be opportunity to use as spotting scope if you have one, or share with others if not.

\$100

Leader: Scott Carey



SA44 Birding by Ear Basics Workshop & Field Trip

7:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Spend the first hour in a classroom focusing on methods for identifying bird songs, then key in on several local species. The remainder will be spent traveling to different habitats to practice. Expertise is not required for this primer designed to get you started on this critical aspect of bird ID. The simple whistle of the Pacific-slope Flycatcher, or the jumbled trill of the Pacific Wren are two of the redwood bird songs focused on. While at the Marsh, the Song Sparrow and chattering Marsh Wren will be heard. Once started on this skill with Dave's help you will definitely finish this workshop with some new bird songs in your vocabulary. Prepare for forest trails, some hills, and flat marsh trails. Restrooms are available at the Community Center. This trip will not stop for food. *[See event #SU80 on Sunday for a follow-up course to this event that focuses on listening to sparrows.]*

\$15

Leader: David Juliano

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SATURDAY, APRIL 21 CONTINUED

SA45 Horse Mountain & High Elevation Habitats 1 \$20

7:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Leader: Jim McIntosh

Head to Horse Mountain (about 30 minutes inland) in the Douglas fir and pine forest we will search for montane species such as Mountain Quail along the higher elevations (4500 feet) reached on Forest Service Route 1 (Titlow Hill). Bring a lunch, warm clothes, and expect beautiful scenery! There may even be some snow on the ground, but that never discourages the Mountain Chickadees. The land here is managed by the Six Rivers National Forest (Trinity District). Roads are tight up in this hill-timber country and unexpected vehicles can cause problems. For this reason we ask that you consider car-pooling to the greatest extent possible. Prepare for variable terrain, possibly snow or wet ground. Restrooms are not available. There may be opportunities to use a spotting scope if you have one to bring. **[This event repeats again Sunday as #SU72.]**



SA46 Birding with the Featured Speaker

\$125

7:15 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Leaders: Jack Dumbacher, CJ Ralph

A unique and interesting birding opportunity is provided on this premier trip. Join this year's keynote speaker, Jack Dumbacher, curator of birds and mammals at the California Academy of Sciences, and local research ornithologist Dr. CJ Ralph on a leisurely field trip to local birding hotspots. The habitats near the private-access Lanphere Dunes will be explored for a variety of birds and the trip will end with a delicious catered lunch by Cassaro's Catering (menu TBA) on the deck at CJ's house overlooking Mad River Slough.

SA47 Humboldt Bay Bird Observatory Banding 1 \$15

7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Leaders: Kim Hollinger & Deven Kammerichs-Berke

Bird banding uses mist nets to capture small birds and place bands around their legs to enable continuous monitoring through re-capture. This The Humboldt Bay Bird Observatory was established in 1982 by Dr. C. John Ralph and Dr. Carol Pearson Ralph. HBBO is adjacent to the Lanphere Dunes Unit of the Humboldt Bay NWR, bordered by Mad River Slough and coastal dune forest. This variety of habitats supports a high diversity of bird species. Bird populations and demographics have been monitored at the station continuously since 1982 making the HBBO one of the longest-running stations in the nation. Education and volunteer programs provide the opportunity to observe and learn about birds, bird monitoring, and research techniques. The banding program has grown into the Klamath Demographic Network that runs banding stations from southern Oregon through the Klamath and California north coast regions and south to Mendocino. Expect narrow trails & possibly wet ground. Will not stop for food, restrooms are available at the site. With the focus on passerines a scope would not be necessary. **[This trip is repeated Sunday as event # SU76.]**

SA48 Best Birding Spots \$80

7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Leaders: Keith Slauson

Emphasis is on introducing participants to some of the county's premier birding sites and enjoying birding at a relaxed pace. Terrain is mostly flat but not good for access-limited persons. We will sample the birds at a half-dozen of the best birding spots in Humboldt County. This trip has become a regular feature of our event. Take layers of clothing, sunscreen, and a hat. There will be stops for restrooms and opportunities to use a spotting scope. This trip will include a sack lunch. Let us know if you have any special dietary requirements at godwitdaysreg@yahoo.com.

SA49 Stone Lagoon Kayak Tour 2 \$65

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Leader: Kayak Zak's

[See description of event #FR23. Event repeats Sunday as #SU79.]

SA50 Chasing Recent Rarities 2 \$20

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Leaders: George Ziminsky & Max Brodie

[See description of event #FR25.]

SA51 Conifers & Birds of the North Coast \$40

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Leader: Michael Kauffmann

Michael Kauffmann, author of *Conifer Country*, *Conifers of the Pacific Slope*, and *Field Guide to Manzanitas*, will lead an exploration into the Ma-le'l Dunes between Humboldt Bay and the Pacific Ocean, home to one of the most pristine temperate dune forests on the Pacific coast. The dune forest is home to a unique assemblage of plants and animals including, of course, fascinating conifer and manzanita species. The group will explore the mutualistic relationships between birds, conifers and manzanitas. Highlights could include bird species from both forest and ocean environments. Bring lunch and something to drink. **[NOTE: Trip price includes your choice of one of Michael's books.]**

FIND THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION AT WWW.GODWITDAYS.ORG

SATURDAY, APRIL 21 CONTINUED

SA52 Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge 2

FREE

8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Leader: Kurt Roblek

THIS EVENT MEETS AT THE REFUGE VISITOR CENTER, SEE MAP IN REGISTRATION MATERIALS IF YOU SIGN UP FOR THIS EVENT. See a startling diversity of bird life and hear about refuge management for migratory birds and other wildlife. Staff will lead a leisurely, level walk around the refuge that supports thousands of both Aleutian Cackling Geese and Black Brant. The ground may be wet but trails are used along the pond levees. This trip will not stop for food. Restrooms will be available at the refuge headquarters before or after the walk. There are also spotting scopes available for general use, scan the open water from the viewing window at the refuge.

SA54 Elk River to Fields Landing

\$15

8:45 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Leader: Cedric Duhalde

This trip will start at the Elk River mouth, arguably the most productive and diverse birding location within Eureka City limits. With river estuary, salt marsh, and riparian habitats in close proximity the Elk River mouth is the perfect first stop on this trip to get a good start on the species list for the day. Afterwards, the trip will head towards King Salmon and Fields Landing to focus on waterbirds like Red-necked Grebe, Harlequin Duck, White-winged Scoter and other waterfowl and other waterbirds. One year a Lapland Longspur was found on the King Salmon dike during a Godwit Days field trip and rarities like Yellow-billed Loon and Royal Tern have both showed up at the Elk River mouth during previous Godwit Days festivals..

SA55 Bear River Ridge

\$25

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Leader: Tony Kurz

From Rio Dell to Ferndale, this classic ridge-top route takes birders out of the forests and into extensive prairies. This 35-mile trip boasts spectacular views of Humboldt Bay, Ferndale, and the Eel River Bottoms. Golden Eagle is possible on this route, as well as other ridge-migrating raptors. Western Meadowlarks, possibly bluebirds, and Horned Larks are other bird specialists of this habitat. Amazingly in 2012 this trip discovered a breeding plumage Smith's Longspur, a first for Humboldt County. This will be mostly road-side birding and requires carpooling to reduce the number of vehicles on this narrow road, please pack a lunch, and restrooms are available in Rio Del and Ferndale.



SA53 Lower Mad River Riparian

\$20

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Leader: Gary Lester

Carlson Park is Arcata's new shining star of a park: 19.1 acres in size and officially declared a park by the City in September of 2017. A network of newly maintained trails network through the cottonwood, alder, and willow riparian forest and has quickly become popular with birders, with numerous interesting birds showing during the first fall the park was open to the public, e.g., Blackburnian and Virginia's warblers. Definitely a new must-see location for the local birder. The McKinleyville Community Service District River Park on the north bank of the Mad River is yet another new publicly accessible park with unimproved trails that wind through some well-developed riparian. Though a new public access area, this spot has already had a couple of interesting birds like Chestnut-sided Warbler, Indigo Bunting and others. If any time remains after birding the 2 locations above, other stops could be made like the School Road Trail, Mad River County Park, the Hammond Bridge, and the Mad River Bluffs. Wear sturdy footwear, bring water, snacks and a lunch for this 6-hour trip.

SA56 Kids Birding Trip 1

FREE

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Leaders: Melissa Dougherty & Amaya Bechler

This field trip is designed for the young naturalist, between the ages of 4 and 12, accompanied by an adult. An introduction to birds, how to use binoculars, and identification tips will precede a leisurely walk around the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary practicing what the youngsters have learned. Donated by Out of This World/discountbinoculars.com, small binoculars suitable for children will be provided for use during the trip. The terrain is mostly flat, groomed trails. We will not stop for food, but snacking would be easy along the trails, and a restroom is available at the interpretive center and at the foot of I Street parking lot. [This trip is also offered Sunday see event #SU84]. Please only register your child as taking a space for this event, an adult is expected along with them.

SA57 Herpetology

\$20

9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Leader: Green Diamond Resource Co

Reptiles and amphibians are sometimes overlooked, but they can be fascinating! Matt works as a biologist for Green Diamond Resource Company, herpetology is his specialty. The redwood forest is home to the Pacific Giant Salamander, which can grow to nearly 1 foot in length and is one of the only salamanders that vocalize – a faint yelp when captured! Uncover the world of snakes, turtles, salamanders, frogs, and more. Please pack a lunch. Spotting scopes unnecessary for herps, but may be used for incidental birds if you wish.

SA60 Kayak Humboldt Bay 2

\$50

12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Leader: Pacific Outfitters

[See description of event #FR32.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 21 CONTINUED

SA61 Art Workshop for Kids

FREE

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Leader: Gary Bloomfield

This workshop is designed for young artists to learn the basics of drawing birds. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Please bring your own paper and drawing materials. Local artist Gary Bloomfield, who provided our 20th anniversary artwork, will share his insight on this fun activity.

SA62 Dune Ecology & The Humboldt Coastal Nature Center

FREE

12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Leader: John St. Marie

Explore the diverse and dynamic coastal dune ecosystem, and visit the Friends of the Dunes headquarters: the Humboldt Coastal Nature Center, a restored house that was originally built into the dunes and still has a "living roof." After touring the Nature Center, participants will take a short hike to the beach through beach pine forest, willow dominated swale, and open sand dunes. Terrain is sandy and steeply undulating; wear closed toed shoes and dress in layers. Restrooms available at the Nature Center. Bring a snack and something to drink. [Friends of the Dunes offers another dune habitat trip on Sunday #SU88].

SA63 Native Plant Walk

FREE

12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Leaders: Carol Ralph & Anna Bernard

Join California Native Plant Society members for a walk from the Arcata Community Center to Arcata Community Forest and back to see native plants in public and private landscapes and in a redwood forest. They will identify a range of native plants and invasive plants, see wildlife in a native plant garden, and think about how to mimic wild habitats in the confines of gardens. Hopefully, trillium will be blooming in the forest. The walk is about 3 miles on sidewalks and good paths, with about 250 ft. elevation gain.

SA64 Spotted Owls 3 – Easy/Moderate Hike

S/O

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Leader: Green Diamond Resource Company

This trip is a "wow!" experience as we visit known activity centers of Northern Spotted Owls in their nesting habitat. If the owl cooperate, this trip offers superb photographic opportunities. The owls come amazingly close as they swoop down for the offered mice by the Green Diamond Resource Company (GDRC) biologist. Over the years, more of the Northern Spotted Owl activity centers have been taken over by Barred Owls and has made finding reliable responsive activity centers more difficult, thus there is no definite guarantee of seeing a Northern Spotted Owl, though tours in the past have been lucky. The biologists at GDRC are quite knowledgeable on the subject of Spotted Owl biology, and they are happy to share their experiences with these birds. Wear hiking boots and dress in layers. Once the group goes beyond the property gate, there will be no way to meet up with them so please do be punctual at start time. This trip will not stop for food or restrooms. You may want to have a spotting scope available in your vehicle if we stop to scan for eagles, but it won't be needed to see the owls (Repeats on Sunday as event # SU91 with a moderate/advanced hike).



SA65 Birding 101 Lecture & Field Trip

\$10

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Leader: Samantha Bacon

This session will begin with a one hour lecture to introduce the tools of the trade. Photos of common local birds will be shown and their identification will be discussed. Then, attendees will go on a field trip to apply what they have learned. Bring your favorite field guide if you have one. Expect mostly flat terrain, and there will be plenty of opportunity to use a spotting scope.

SA66 Field Sketching Workshop & Field Trip

\$15

1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Leader: Gary Bloomfield

This is a crash course in bird anatomy shorthand for capturing gestures in moving birds. Gary is a Godwit Days board member and the 20th anniversary poster artist. Following an introductory lecture, participants will head outdoors to learn field sketching techniques for art reference and visual note taking. Terrain will be flat and easy access. Sunny weather will allow outdoor sketching. This trip will not stop for food, you may wish to pack a lunch.

SA67 Binoculars & Scopes Lecture

\$10

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Leader: Out Of This World

Whether you've just started birding or looking for an upgrade, this talk will introduce the many types and uses of optical aids. Get essential information about types, field of view, focus distance, magnification, high-density glass, and jargon related to birding optics. Several optics representatives will be at the Bird Fair with all types and brands of binoculars, spotting scopes, tripods, and accessories for side-by-side comparisons. This workshop will take place at the posted location in the Community Center.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21 CONTINUED

SA68 Banquet

\$30

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Leader: Brett Shuler Fine Catering

Relax after a full day of events over a gourmet banquet provided by Brett Shuler Fine Catering. Includes a complimentary glass of beer or wine, shade-grown bird-friendly coffee, iced tea, and dessert. DINNER BUFFET: Stuffed Rocky Chicken Breast with Prosciutto and Provolone in Madeira Sauce (meat option), Spanakopita (vegetarian option), Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans, and Mixed Green Salad.

SA69 Keynote Lecture included w/paid registration; \$10 w/o registration

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Leader: Sharon Stiteler

Godwit Days 2018 Keynote Speaker Sharon Stiteler (a.k.a. "Birdchick") will give a talk titled "Today's Office." Stiteler explains "My goal is to get paid go bird watching and my offices can be in the middle of the Kazakh Steppes or flying 100 feet above the Mississippi River counting ducks. I will chronicle my many adventures finding things birds and suitable bathrooms. I'll talk about finding Horned Guans in Guatemala or Sandwich Terns in a nudist colony." [See page 3 for more information.]



SUNDAY, APRIL 22

SU70 Marbled Murrelets 2

\$15

5:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Leader: Alexa Dejoannis

[See description of event #SA38.]

SU71 Shorebird Spectacle at the Marsh 2

\$15

7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Leader: David Fix

[See description of event #SA39.]

SU72 Horse Mountain & High Elevation Habitats 2

\$20

7:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Leader: Jim McIntosh

[See description of event #SA45.]



SU73 Birding with the Keynote Speaker 2

\$125

7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Leaders: Sharon Stiteler & CJ Ralph

A unique and interesting birding opportunity is provided on this premier trip. Join this year's keynote speaker, Sharon Stiteler, founder of Birdchick.com and author, and local research ornithologist Dr. CJ Ralph on a leisurely field trip to local birding hotspots. The habitats near the private-access Lanphere Dunes will be explored for a variety of birds and the trip will end with a delicious catered lunch by Cassaro's Catering (menu TBA) on the deck at CJ's house overlooking Mad River Slough.

SU74 Trinity River & Willow Creek

\$30

7:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Leader: Tom Leskiw

Drive along the designated Scenic Highway as we head inland Humboldt County, Willow Creek and the Trinity River: Forest birds will be the focus, but also expect Spotted Sandpiper, American Dipper, and other exciting inland birds along the spectacular Trinity River. Located just over the Humboldt County line, one-way travel is about 1 hour. Expect variable terrain, including short, steep pitches on developed trails. Weather may be warmer than the coast, but there is always the possibility of rain. Please pack a lunch, this trip will not stop for food. Restrooms are available 1 hour into the trip and on the return. Opportunity to use a spotting scope is limited.

SU75 Birding by Ear – Beyond the Basics Workshop & Field Trip

\$15

7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Leader: David Julianio

This workshop is designed for birders who already know common bird vocalizations and wish to expand their knowledge. The focus of this particular session will be on sparrows. The songs of local breeding sparrows will be the starting point and we'll also go into chips and flight calls. The classroom and field trip will work on both identifying unfamiliar birds to group and differentiating group members (Reference event #SA45 for Basic course). This trip will not stop for food, but will stop at restrooms. There will be opportunity to use a spotting scope if you have one.

SU76 Humboldt Bay Bird Observatory Banding 2

\$15

7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Leaders: Kim Hollinger & Deven Kammerichs-Berke

[See description of event #SA47.]

SUNDAY, APRIL 22 CONTINUED



SU77 Del Norte & Tufted Puffins

S/O

7:45 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Leader: Rob Fowler

Del Norte County provides an interesting contrast to Humboldt Birding. This trip begins with a scenic drive north through the redwoods and lagoons to Crescent City. Rendezvous at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park with participants from the Marbled Murrelet trip (reference event #70) is possible. The harbor and rocky shore support an array of birds, including Tufted Puffin on Castle Rock, the West Coast's third largest seabird colony. This is the only land-based location in California where one can see Tufted Puffin, though a scope is highly advisable. We will visit Alexandre Dairy for shorebirds and Lake Earl for waterfowl. Point St. George could reveal some sea ducks like scoters and Harlequin Duck and it's an outstanding location for all the West Coast rocky shorebirds. Crescent City harbor should have loons, grebes, Red-breasted Merganser and Surf Scoter and migrant shorebirds. The gull flock at the mouth of Elk Creek by the swimming pool is always worth a scan. To ensure there are no lost parties, Anchor Way in Crescent City will be the rendezvous point to reconvene after our 1.5 hours of travel from the Arcata Community Center. Expect uneven terrain, rocky shorelines, and possibly wet ground. This event includes a sack lunch, please let us know if you have dietary restrictions (godwitdaysreg@yahoo.com).



SU78 McKinleyville, Humboldt County's "Birdiest City"

S/O

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Leader: Gary Lester

Ok, ok, if you are familiar with McKinleyville you know that it is unincorporated, so is technically not a city. Nonetheless, back in 2010, McKinleyville took the honors of the "Birdiest City" competition (recorded more total species seen within "city limits" than Arcata and Eureka) and on this trip Godwit Days participants will see why! McKinleyville has so many habitats to explore for birding, from coastal Sitka Spruce forest, riverside riparian, river estuary, beaches, and more. McKinleyville has also attracted some of the rarest of the rare birds seen in Humboldt County, like Little Bunting, Common Green-shank, and Brown Shrike (none of these are to be expected, of course!!). Come join one of the long-time local "McKinleyvillain" birders, Gary Lester, to explore some of the great birding McKinleyville has to offer.



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SUNDAY, APRIL 22 CONTINUED

SU79 Stone Lagoon Kayak Tour 3

\$65

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Leader: Kayak Zak's

[See description of event #FR23.]

SU80 iNaturalist BioBlitz with Jack Dumbacher

\$15

8:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Leader: Jack Dumbacher

Everyone can be a scientist when entering data into iNaturalist, a mobile app to track the location of any species and submit the data to the California Academy of Sciences. Collect information about the plants and animals at the Arcata Marsh with the guidance of Jack Dumbacher, curator of ornithology and mammalogy at the California Academy of Sciences and Friday keynote speaker. If possible please bring a smart device with the iNaturalist app already downloaded for your use.

SU81 Arcata Marsh Birding & Wastewater Tour

FREE

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Leaders: David Couch, George Ziminsky

The City of Arcata boast the crown jewel of birding on the North Coast, the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary, where over 330 species of birds have been recorded. A leisurely paced trip, with Friends of the Arcata Marsh docents introducing the marsh birds is perfect for anybody with an interest in nature. As part of the City of Arcata's wastewater treatment process, this restored and constructed wetland area hosts an abundance of birds and other wildlife. An exclusive tour of the wastewater treatment facility is included in this event. Terrain mostly flat, but may be wet. Restrooms will be available at the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center. There will be plenty of opportunities to use a spotting scope if you have one to bring. This is a free community event, no basic registration fee is required if you are ONLY signing up for free community events.

SU82 Eureka Waterfront

\$15

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Leader: Cedric Duhalde

The City of Eureka is currently working on a portion of the California Coastal Trail connecting along the Eureka Waterfront, with the newest addition in south Eureka. Gulls, Terns, bay ducks and shorebirds can be spotted from the edges of Humboldt Bay. Several stops with short walks will allow a view of much of the inner bay coastline from south Eureka to historic Old Town.

NEW! SU83 Bike & Bird Humboldt Bay Trail North

\$15

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Leader: To Be Determined

The newly constructed Humboldt Bay Trail North section extends from Samoa Blvd west of Arcata, through the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary, and out along the edge of Humboldt Bay, crossing over Butcher's Slough, Gannon Slough, Jacoby Creek, and Old Jacoby Creek. An overlook on the Bay with bench seating allows for a great spot to rest and view the birds at the mouth of Gannon Slough, where thousands of shorebirds can be seen. Bring your own bike or rent one from a local shop such as Pacific Outfitters, Adventure's Edge, or Revolution Bike Repair.

SU84 Kids Birding Trip 2

FREE

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Leader: Katy Allen

[See description of event #SA56.]



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SUNDAY, APRIL 22 CONTINUED

SU85 Dragonflies Workshop

FREE

10:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Leader: Sandra Hunt-von Arb

THIS EVENT MEETS AT THE ARCATA MARSH INTERPRETIVE CENTER, 569 SOUTH G STREET. Join local biologist Sandra Hunt-von Arb in exploring the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary for spring examples of our colorful and fascinating dragonflies and damselflies. Learn the difference between dragonflies and damselflies, where to go see them, and how to identify individual species. Find out why dragonflies are the Next Big Thing! Easy walking. This program will begin with an indoor presentation at the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center then out to find the area's dragonflies.

SU86 Salmon Smolts & The Little River

\$15

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Leaders: Patrick Righter, Green Diamond Resource Co

The rivers and streams of redwood forests are home to several species of Pacific Salmon. One species is the Chinook Salmon, which can reach weights in excess of 100 pounds as adults! Salmon are a valuable food resource for humans, BIRDS, other wildlife, and healthy forest ecosystems. They have fascinating life histories including annual migrations considered to be miracles of nature. Some of our local salmon are state and federally listed due to population declines and substantial efforts are being made to conserve and recover these amazing animals. Join us to uncover the world of freshwater fishes, stream environments, fish conservation efforts and more. The trip leader works for Green Diamond Resource Company and has over 10 years of experience monitoring Pacific salmonid populations in northern California. Please pack a lunch. It is recommended you dress in layers and wear waterproof footwear for walking in or near streams (e.g., calf high rubber boots). Spotting scopes are unnecessary for fish, but may be used for incidental birds if you wish. Please note: This event is conditional on the weather. Heavy rains and high flows in the river may require canceling the tour.

SU87 Kayak Mad River Slough

\$50

12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Leader: Pacific Outfitters

The Mad River Slough Wildlife Area provides opportunities for spectacular bird watching and wildlife viewing. This tour is a favorite among bird watchers. We'll paddle 2 to 4 miles, exploring the Mad River Slough's unique environment west of Arcata on the east side of Humboldt Bay. Over 150 years ago loggers dug out a channel and connected the slough with the Mad River in order to float their logs down river, all the way to the mill yards that sat on the edge of Humboldt Bay. This on-top-of-the-water experience allows for close up views of water birds and flocks of small shorebirds as they fly close over your head in switch-back flight. Loons, grebes, cormorants, and diving ducks will be encountered. All paddling gear and instruction provided, no experience necessary.

SU88 Lanphere Dunes

FREE

12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Leader: Alexa Dejoannis

Enjoy the dynamic dunes ecosystem and associated rare and endangered plants. Formerly a Nature Conservancy property, the dunes are now part of the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge. The coastal spruce forest supports flocks of chickadees and Wrentits. Terrain is sandy, steeply undulating; wear closed-toed shoes. Dress in layers, bring a lunch/snack and something to drink. No restrooms are available or opportunity to use a spotting scope. Sponsored by Friends of the Dunes.

SU90 Tech Birding Workshop with "Birdchick"

\$20

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Leader: Sharon Stiteler

Smartphone Birding Workshop with "Birdchick". Description update: Using apps can enhance your birding experience. Learn how to use some of them with Sharon Stiteler. She will also give you tips on digiscoping with your phone.

SU91 Spotted Owls 4 – Moderate/Advanced Hike

\$25

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Leader: Green Diamond Resource Co

This trip is a "wow!" experience as we visit excellent spots to observe Northern Spotted Owls in their nesting habitat. This trip offers superb photographic opportunities, as the owls have become accustomed to human presence over the years they have been studied. The biologists at GDRC are quite knowledgeable on the subject of Spotted Owl biology, and they are happy to share their experiences with these birds. The owls come amazingly close as they swoop down for the offered mice by the GDRC biologist. This event will require a hike-in after driving on gravel roads. Expect uneven terrain and possibly a long walk. Wear hiking boots and dress in layers. Will not stop for food or restrooms. Once the group carpools from the community center to Green Diamond property, they will be going behind a locked gate and cannot be joined up with, so be sure to be on time to meet the group. You may want to have a spotting scope available in your vehicle if we stop to scan for eagles, but it won't be needed to see the owls.

SU92 iNaturalist Workshop with Jack Dumbacher

\$20

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Leader: Jack Dumbacher

Learn how to use the mobile app iNaturalist to record plant and animal species locations with photos and information, uploaded to the master database managed by the California Academy of Sciences. Have your questions answered by other users ("What is this insect?!"), and help others with ID.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22 CONTINUED

SU93 Sunday Evening Social

NAC

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Hosted by: Redwood Curtain Brewing Co

Join us at Redwood Curtain Brewing Co. across from the Arcata Marsh at 550 South G Street for tasty local brews and food from the Loco Fish Company food truck (variety of food options including veggie.) This is a social recap of the festival highlights and wind down before your trip home. This event is traditionally attended by festival organizers and trip leaders and keynote speakers. Participants are encouraged to come by and let us know what we can do to improve your bird festival experience.

MONDAY, APRIL 23



MO94 Lava Beds NE California (2-Day Trip)

\$250

7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Leaders: Chet Ogan, Gary Bloomfield

The variety of birds seen on this trip is impressive, from Sandhill Crane and American White pelican – two of the largest US species – to the smallest US bird, the Calliope Hummingbird. Based on the traditional Ornithology II field trip with Dr. Harris, who referred to it as the "Bird-Blitz," this trip heads for the:

- Klamath Basin along Hwy 299, first to Redding then up to Weed past Mt. Shasta.
- Hwy 97 will take us to Grass Lake and the Butte Valley.
- The evening will be spent at the Tule Lake NWR where we will stay at Winema Lodge (included in trip price).
- The first day starts with birding at the Straw House along Hwy 299, with stops for restrooms and coffee.
- Kutas Lake and Turtle Bay will be the picnic lunch stop in Redding (12-1 pm, lunch not provided).

At the top of the Central Valley the riparian habitat is excellent and Nuttall's Woodpecker and Yellow-billed Magpie should be seen. Weed and Grass Lake (2-3 pm), here we will hopefully observe our first Sandhill Cranes and Yellow-headed Blackbirds, Butte Valley (4pm) for raptors, Klamath NWR (5-6 pm) for ducks, and an evening meal will be waiting for us at the lodge (6-7pm, included in trip price). The variety of habitats and species expected to be seen will include the following additional species not typical of our coastal area: Oak Titmouse, Hooded Oriole, Swainson's Hawk, Bald Eagle, Black-billed Magpie, Rock Wren, Mountain Bluebird, and White-faced Ibis. On the second day, we will bird the auto-tour routes before breakfast back at the lodge (included in trip price). We have seen Wilson's Phalarope, Franklin's Gull and Tricolored Blackbird in the past. Then we head out via Tule lake, the petrocliffs (11am), Mammoth Crater, and the Lava Beds south on Hwy 139 towards Ash Creek. Lunch this day is provided by Winema Lodge and is included in the trip price. Rock and Canyon Wrens, Townsend's Solitaire, and Pygmy Nuthatch will be new passerines, while Great Horned Owl and Prairie Falcon will hopefully be tending their cliff-top nests. We will head back to Arcata by way of Hwy 299 and stop along the way as needed. This trip is by carpool. *Accommodations at Winema Lodge, Monday evening meal, Tuesday breakfast and packed lunch are all included in the trip price.

MO95 Shorebird Spectacle at the Marsh 3

\$15

7:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Leader: Alexa Dejoannis

[See description of event #SA39.]



A Marbled Godwit is a large, bright brown shorebird with a long, slightly upturned bi-colored bill. In flight, the underside of the wings is bright cinnamon-brown. Marbled Godwits nest from early May through July in wet meadows and grassy areas near water. They are coastal in winter, feeding in muddy bays, estuaries, salt marshes and wet pastures. During Godwit Days, they are in Humboldt Bay by the thousands. Most Marbled Godwits breed in the central United States and Canadian prairies and winter on the Pacific Coast. A distinct population (the slightly smaller subspecies *beringiae*) winters predominantly in the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary and on Humboldt Bay. In certain years, Arcata's Christmas Bird Count records more individual godwits than any other location in the United States. The great number of Marbled Godwits, along with other wintering shorebirds, has resulted in recognition of Humboldt Bay as a critical stopover on the Pacific Flyway. The *beringiae* subspecies of godwits breed on the tundra near Ugashik Bay, Alaska.

MONDAY, APRIL 23 CONTINUED

MO96 Humboldt Lagoons State Park – Stone Lagoon FREE

7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Leader: Moe Morrisette

Stone Lagoon is located on Hwy 101 between Trinidad and Orick. It has great birding with a mix of riparian hardwood, open freshwater, strong conifer influence and the open beach. The trip will also check out Dry and Big Lagoons along this exquisite drive. If you have a spotting scope, this is a great opportunity to use it. Ring-necked Ducks often hunker down in the reed beds, forest passerines will include Chestnut-backed Chickadees and Pacific Slope Flycatchers, and Varied and Swainson's Thrush will serenade. There is a great chance to witness the magnificent Elk herd along this stretch. Expect mostly flat terrain, possibly wet ground. This trip will not stop for food. Restrooms are available at some stops. California State Parks is a major sponsor of Godwit Days and provides a variety of trips, access to the parks, and their expert staff as guides

MO97 Mulligan Monday \$15

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Leader: Jude Power

The rare bird board will have filled up and notes given to this leader. Join this group and round up all the great birds found during the festival weekend. Arcata Marsh, the Arcata Bottoms, and the Blue Lake cottonwoods will be visited. There will also be the chance for some special requests based on what has been seen over the Godwit Days weekend or what you still need for your species list. Prepare for variable terrain, pack a lunch. Restrooms will be available.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

TU98 Tail-end Tuesday \$8

7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Leader: Alexandra Lamb

This will be a casual, wind-down birding trip to round out your week. Based on what has been located over the weekend, or targeting specific birds you have not seen yet, this trip is designed to be flexible and to meet your birding goals.



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GODWIT DAYS 2018

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Basic \$35 fee includes reception, opening talk, keynote, and Sunday Social; other trip fees added. Basic registration fee is waived for kids under 18; events are also no charge EXCEPT Gold trips, Humboldt Big Day, Banquet, Kayak trips, and Bike & Bird trip. Trips are by carpool and meet at the Arcata Community Center, unless otherwise noted in field trip description (find the most up-to-date information at www.godwitdays.org).

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